

**The Churches of
St Bartholomew and St Chad
Thurstaston and Irby
17th December 2017 – Advent 3**



Welcome to Church today.

We hope that you enjoy the service and gain a sense of God's presence with us.

Children are Welcome at our Services

In St Chad's, we have activity bags available and there is also a box of toys and cushions in the foyer, in case you feel your child would be happier playing there.

In St Bartholomew's, there are some colouring sheets and toys at the back of church.

Children from age 2½ can attend Junior Church (term time) at St Chad's

Collect

God for whom we watch and wait,
you sent John the Baptist to prepare the
way of your Son:

give us courage to speak the truth,
to hunger for justice,
and to suffer for the cause of right,
with Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Post-Communion Prayer

We give you thanks, O Lord, for these
heavenly gifts;

kindle in us the fire of your Spirit
that when your Christ comes again
we may shine as lights before his face;
who is alive and reigns now and for ever.

Amen

FOR OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

For the World: Please pray for the homeless as the weather get colder that they find warmth and comfort.

For the Parish: Please pray for everyone who is missing loved ones as Christmas approaches.

For the sick: Please pray for David Cunnington and continue to pray for Connor Carr, Alec Ball, Anna Drysdale, and Alison Harris. Please pray for those in hospital.

For the bereaved: Please pray for the family and friends of John Mason and Françoise Reed.

From the Anglican Prayer Cycle: Pray for mutual encouragement in our commitment to the Word.

From the Diocesan Prayer Cycle Bishop John Smylie, Wyoming (VI, The Episcopal Church, USA)

Services TODAY – Advent 3

8:00 am	Holy Communion	St. Bartholomew's
9.30 am	Nativity	St Chads
11.15am	Morning Worship	St. Bartholomew's
6.30 pm	Carol Service	St Chads

Services next week

Wednesday 20th December

10.15 am	Holy Communion	St Chads
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Sunday 24th December - Advent 4

8.00 am	Holy Communion	St Bartholomew's
9.30am	Holy Communion	St Chads
4.00pm	Crib Service	St Bartholomew's
5.00pm	Crib Service	St Bartholomew's
11.15pm	Holy Communion	St Bartholomew's

Monday 25th December – Christmas Day

8.00am	Holy Communion	St Bartholomew's
10.30am	Family Communion	St Bartholomew's
	No Other Services today	

Notices and Announcement

PARISH OFFICE EMAIL: We have terminated our BT contract meaning that the office btinternet email address has become invalid. Please can you change your address book. The email address for the office is office@thurstaston.org.uk

HOST UK are looking for British homes to give a welcome to international students, for friendship and cultural exchange. Whilst not a faith-based charity, it values the offers of hospitality that result from awareness raising in Churches. For more information please see the poster on the information board or visit their website www.hostuk.org.

Ecclesiastical home insurance will donate £130 to the church each time a member of the church family take out a home insurance policy with them. See the posters at each church for more details.

Crosstalk the Dec/Jan magazine is available at the back of church priced 60p. For subscribers, please note that 2018 subscriptions are due

Please collect your Postage Stamps over the Christmas period and throughout the year for RDA (Riding for the Disabled). Box in St Chad's foyer and envelope at the back of St Bart's.

Easy Fundraising With Christmas approaching and on-line spending increasing, don't forget every penny makes a real difference so please remember to keep collecting free donations every time you shop and help us raise even more
<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stbartholomewstchad>

Epiphany Breakfast 9-10 am Saturday 6th January at St Chad's, an opportunity to share worship and prayer as we share breakfast. For catering purposes please return the below slip to Revd Jane by 3rd January

I/We will be coming to the Epiphany Breakfast:-
Name:

Number of People:

Any Dietary Requirements:

I would be able to come at 8.30 am and help with setting up and cooking: YES/NO

Dawpool (C of E) Primary School
Anyone applying for F2 in September 2018 make sure you fill in a Supplementary form to gain Church Attendance Criteria which can be downloaded from the Admissions tab of the school website.

Christmas Trees Once again our Christmas trees (one in each church) have been kindly donated by Church Farm in Thurstaston. Church farm, as many of you know, is an award-winning farm and farm shop just up the road from St Bartholomew's. There's a lot going on over Christmas- do try and find time for a visit

Would you like to receive this notice sheet every week direct to your email in-box? If so, please send an email request to the parish office (office@thurstaston.org.uk)

Christmas Services

Sunday 17th December:

St Chads: 9.30 am Nativity Service led by Junior Church
6.30 pm Joint Carol Service
St Bartholomew's: 8.00am and 11.15am as normal

Sunday 24th December Christmas Eve:

St Chads: 9.30 am Holy Communion
St Bartholomew's:
8.00 am Holy Communion
No 11.15 am Service
4.00 pm Crib Service
5.00 pm Crib Service
11.15pm First Communion of Christmas

Monday 25th December Christmas Day

St Bartholomew's:
8.00 am Holy Communion
10.30 am Family Communion
NO OTHER SERVICES TODAY

GOSPEL READING: John 1 6-8, 19-28

All: Glory to you, O Lord

⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸ He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

¹⁹ This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" ²⁰ He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." ²¹ And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." ²² Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" ²³ He said,

"I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness,
'Make straight the way of the Lord,'" as the prophet Isaiah said.

²⁴ Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. ²⁵ They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" ²⁶ John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, ²⁷ the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." ²⁸ This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

All: Praise to you, O Christ

Readings for Today	Readings for 24 th December
Is 61:1-4,8-11	2 Sam 7:1-5,8-11,16
1 Thess 5:16-24	Acts 13:16-26
John 1:6-8,19-28	Luke 1:67-79

Church Office: Mrs K Butler, St Chad's Church, Roslin Road, Irby, CH61 3UH

Open Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 9.30am-12.30pm (term time)

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Revd Jane Turner 648 1816 (Day off Tuesday). E-Mail: rector@thurstaston.org.uk